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DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

February 1994

The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Maine's Civilian Labor Force Declined in 1993

Between 1992 and 1993, the number of Maine residents in the civilian labor force dropped by 20,000. This decline was an abrupt turnaround from the labor force gains recorded during the previous twelve years. Maine's civilian labor force, the total number of residents employed or unemployed, recorded an average annual increase of 12,000 from 1980 through 1992.

The number of people in the labor force is influenced by two factors: the size of the eligible population and the civilian labor force participation rate. The eligible population consists of Maine's civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and older. The civilian labor force participation rate is the civilian labor force as a percent of the eligible population.

During the 1980s both factors contributed to the civilian labor force increasing by 127,000, an average of 12,700 a year. According to the Current Population Survey (CPS), the eligible population increased by 118,000 between 1980 and 1990. A net in-migration of people during the 1980s and the aging of the baby boomers both contributed to the increase in the working age population. At the same time, the civilian labor force participation rate increased from 61.4 percent to 67.6 percent. Most of the gain in the percentage of the eligible population in the labor force was due to an increase in the female participation rate, which rose from 50.3 percent in 1980 to 60.3 percent in 1990. The male participation rate increased by 1.4 percentage points to 75.3 percent.

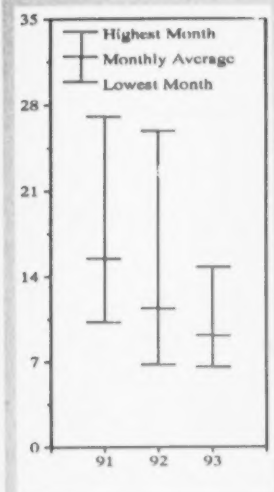
Thus far in the 1990s, the factors which influence the size of Maine's labor force both reflect the effects of Maine's economic slump. Population growth has slowed substantially. Net in-migration recorded during the 1980s has been replaced by net out-migration because of poor employment prospects. CPS data indicates that the working age population rose by only 12,700 between 1990 and 1993. The participation rate continued to rise through 1992, then recorded a significant decline, falling from 68.6 percent in 1992 to 66.4 percent in 1993 as discouraged Maine residents quit looking for work.

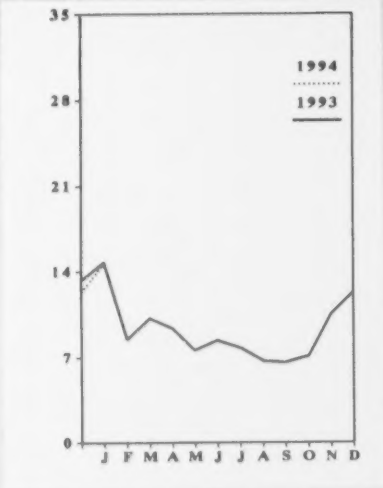
Between 1990 and 1992 the civilian labor force increased by an average of 8,500 a year, a slowdown from the previous ten years. The number of labor force participants in Maine declined from 651,000 in 1992 to 631,000 in 1993 due to a falling participation rate in combination with slow population growth.

by Dana Evans, State Labor Economist

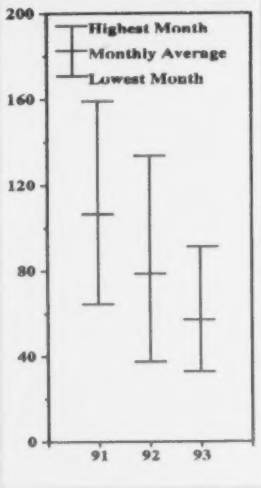
(See related graph on page 2)

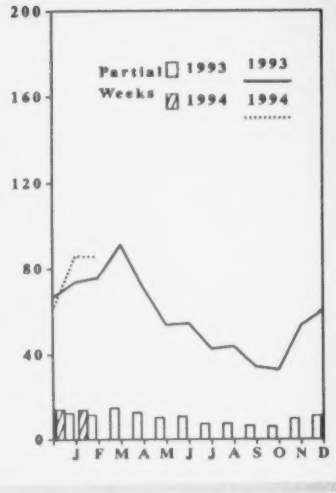
UI Initial Claims
In Thousands



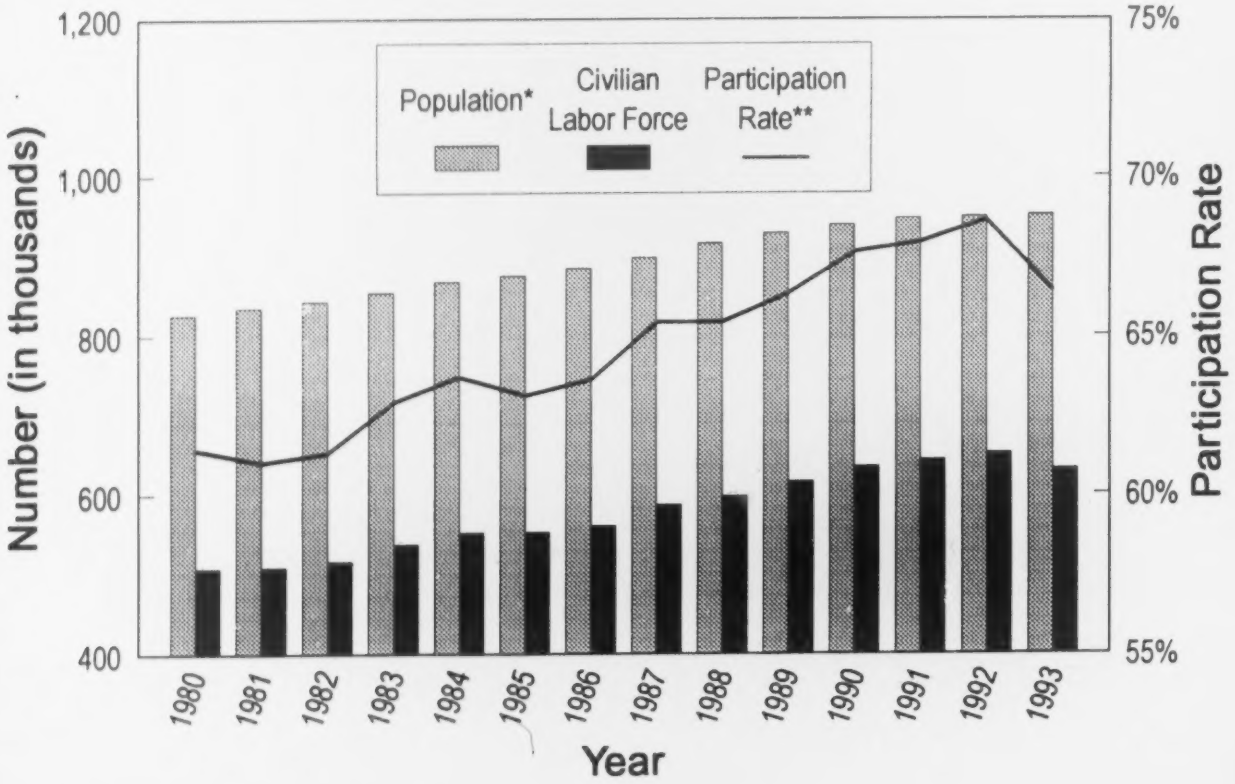


UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
In Thousands





Participation in Maine's Labor Force Declined in 1993



* *Civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over.*

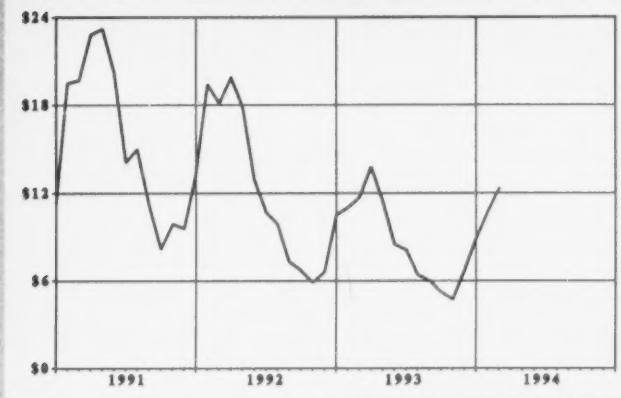
** *Civilian labor force as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over.*

Selected Employment Security Activities

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments

In Millions

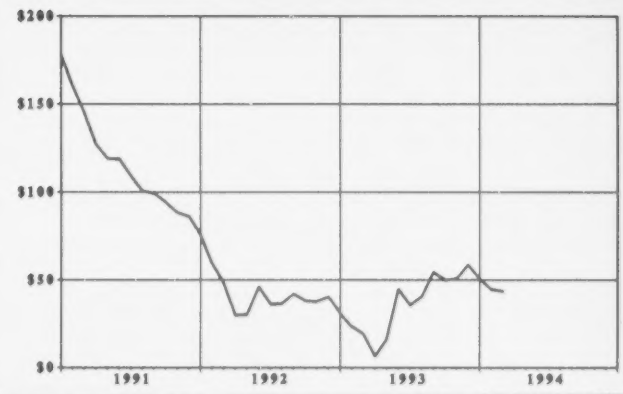
(Total includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance

In Millions

(End of Month)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS This Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS Last Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS Year Ago	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS This Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS Last Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS Year Ago	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS This Month	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS Last Month	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS Year Ago	ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS 1991	1992	1993
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$480.98	$482.57	$462.35	40.9	41.0	40.1	$11.76	$11.77	$11.53	$11.08	$11.38	$11.63
Durable Goods	477.09	483.52	449.51	40.5	40.7	39.5	11.78	11.88	11.38	10.61	11.14	11.43
Lumber and Wood Products	387.57	387.87	385.52	41.1	40.7	41.1	9.43	9.53	9.38	8.97	9.25	9.33
Primary and Fabricated Metals	468.02	472.07	459.54	41.9	42.3	43.6	11.17	11.16	10.54	10.18	10.45	11.00
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	599.32	586.42	530.52	44.1	43.6	40.1	13.59	13.45	13.23	12.43	12.82	13.32
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	424.27	414.22	390.20	39.8	39.6	37.7	10.66	10.46	10.35	9.91	10.02	10.33
Transportation Equipment	595.21	628.00	559.56	38.5	40.0	38.3	15.46	15.70	14.61	12.55	14.09	14.64
Other Durable Goods	357.41	368.96	332.14	40.8	40.5	37.7	8.76	9.11	8.81	8.57	8.86	8.89
Nondurable Goods	482.93	481.22	472.99	41.1	41.2	40.6	11.75	11.68	11.65	11.48	11.57	11.79
Food and Kindred Products	332.70	345.24	327.88	36.4	36.0	35.6	9.14	9.59	9.21	8.76	9.15	9.34
Textile Mill Products	427.79	418.15	380.89	45.9	45.5	41.0	9.32	9.19	9.29	8.82	9.03	9.49
Apparel and Other Textile Products	273.00	285.43	267.81	35.0	36.5	32.7	7.80	7.82	8.19	7.28	7.65	7.95
Paper and Allied Products	733.49	722.97	718.46	44.4	44.6	45.3	16.52	16.21	15.86	16.06	16.25	16.63
Leather and Leather Products	321.92	326.09	305.66	38.6	39.1	38.4	8.34	8.34	7.96	7.82	7.92	8.00
Other Nondurable Goods	416.40	414.47	402.98	40.0	39.7	39.2	10.41	10.44	10.28	9.85	10.07	10.28
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	415.40	422.49	404.07	39.3	38.2	38.3	10.57	11.06	10.55	10.45	10.55	10.68
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	402.12	410.59	373.63	40.7	41.6	38.4	9.88	9.87	9.73	9.33	9.53	9.82

Female Labor Force in Maine

In Thousands

ITEM[1/]	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Labor Force	299.1	285.1	281.3
Unemployment	23.3	27.9	23.8
(Percent)	7.8%	9.8%	8.5%
Resident Employed	275.8	257.2	257.5

U.S. Consumer Price Index

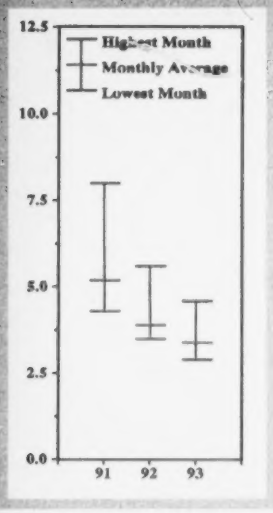
BASE PERIOD (1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
	146.7	146.2	143.1	145.8

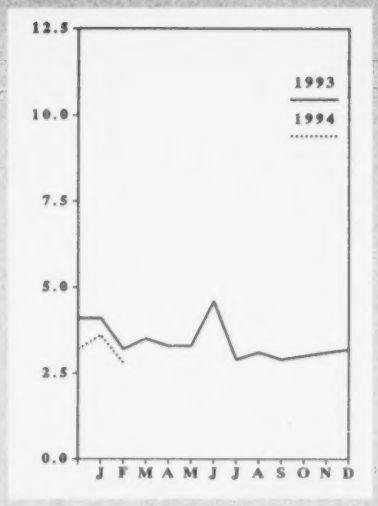
Percent Change for Past Month	+0.3%
Percent Change from Last December	+0.6%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.5%

1/ Current figures preliminary; last month and year ago figures revised.

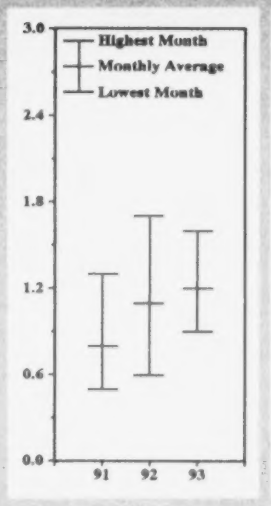
Source: Female labor force estimates are developed by, and solely the responsibility of, the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research.

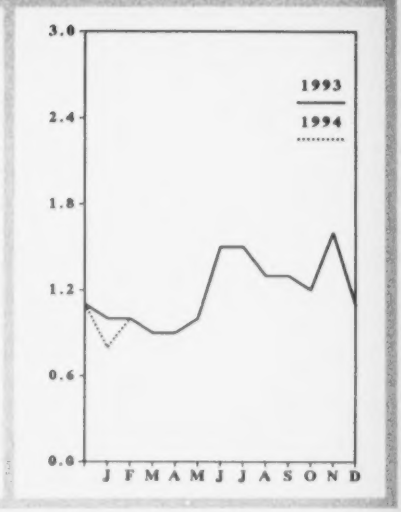
New Applications For Work
In Thousands





Nonfarm Placements
In Thousands
(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)





Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work (in Thousands)

ITEM	STATEWIDE THIS MONTH	STATEWIDE LAST MONTH	STATEWIDE YEAR AGO	PORTLAND MSA THIS MONTH	PORTLAND MSA LAST MONTH	PORTLAND MSA YEAR AGO	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA THIS MONTH	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA LAST MONTH	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA YEAR AGO
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/	508.6	507.7	495.2	125.1	124.2	119.7	39.1	39.0	38.2
Goods Producing	110.0	110.8	106.2	18.4	18.1	18.2	9.4	9.6	9.3
Construction and Mining	18.3	19.5	17.1	5.0	5.0	4.9	1.3	1.4	1.3
Building Construction	4.4	4.7	4.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Special Trade Contractors	10.7	11.4	9.5	3.3	3.4	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manufacturing	91.7	91.3	89.1	13.4	13.1	13.3	8.1	8.2	8.0
Durable Goods	41.4	40.9	40.0	5.9	5.7	5.8	2.2	2.2	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	11.1	11.0	10.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.3	3.3	3.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.1	4.1	3.6	1.3	1.3	1.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic and other Elect. Equip.	6.7	6.7	6.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Transportation Equipment	12.6	12.1	12.3	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Durable Goods 2/	3.6	3.7	3.6	2.7	2.5	2.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nondurable Goods	50.3	50.4	49.1	7.5	7.4	7.5	5.9	6.0	5.8
Food and Kindred Products	6.4	6.5	6.1	1.8	1.8	1.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Textile Mill Products	5.7	5.6	5.1	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apparel and Other Textile Products	2.8	2.8	2.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products	15.8	15.8	16.2	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing and Publishing	5.5	5.5	5.1	1.7	1.7	1.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.0	3.1	2.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leather and Leather Products	9.8	9.9	9.8	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.7
Footwear (except Rubber)	8.0	8.1	8.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Nondurable Goods 3/	1.3	1.2	1.3	2.7	2.6	2.8	4.2	4.3	4.1
Service Producing	398.6	396.9	389.0	106.7	106.1	101.5	29.7	29.4	28.9
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.0	21.1	21.3	5.7	5.7	5.8	1.4	1.4	1.3
Wholesale Trade	23.0	23.0	22.6	8.7	8.7	8.5	1.8	1.9	1.8
Retail Trade	99.7	102.4	96.5	28.0	28.9	26.6	8.3	8.4	7.8
General Merchandise Stores	10.9	11.4	10.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Food Stores	17.6	18.2	17.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Eating and Drinking Places	28.4	29.1	27.8	7.8	8.0	7.1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	25.6	25.7	24.9	12.2	12.1	11.8	2.0	2.0	1.9
Banking	8.8	8.9	8.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	11.7	11.7	11.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Services	132.7	132.1	124.9	34.1	34.2	32.3	11.4	11.0	11.2
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	6.6	6.5	5.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Business Services	13.7	13.7	12.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Health Services	49.2	49.3	48.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Federal Government	15.1	15.1	16.5	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.3
State Government	27.5	24.9	28.0	5.4	4.3	4.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local Government	54.0	52.6	54.3	10.6	10.2	9.9	3.8	3.7	3.9
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 24, 25, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39. 3/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 20, 22, 23, 26, 30; Lewiston - 20, 22, 23, 26, 27. 4/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. * Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item. Source: Nonfarm wage and salary employment by place of work and earnings, and workweek of production workers in manufacturing industries are developed by the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

Area 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/ This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	RESIDENT EMPLOYED This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	UNEMPLOYMENT Number This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-STATEWIDE (000)	620.3	618.4	625.0	563.1	550.4	567.3	57.2	68.0	57.7	9.2	11.0	9.2
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	49,300	48,700	48,600	45,800	44,600	45,100	3,500	4,100	3,500	7.1	8.5	7.1
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	50,400	50,500	50,600	45,800	45,000	45,600	4,600	5,400	5,000	9.0	10.8	9.9
Portland MSA	121,400	119,500	119,300	113,700	110,300	111,600	7,700	9,100	7,700	6.3	7.7	6.5
Portsmouth-Rochester MSA	117,080	117,750	n/a	110,860	111,600	n/a	6,220	6,150	n/a	5.3	5.2	n/a
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	42,960	43,290	44,370	39,240	38,790	40,590	3,730	4,500	3,780	8.7	10.4	8.5
Bath-Brunswick	33,830	32,970	34,500	31,430	30,240	31,970	2,400	2,730	2,530	7.1	8.3	7.3
Belfast	11,490	11,760	11,520	10,020	9,930	10,090	1,470	1,840	1,430	12.8	15.6	12.4
Biddeford	31,600	31,450	32,780	28,500	27,780	29,550	3,100	3,680	3,230	9.8	11.7	9.9
Boothbay Harbor	7,180	7,260	7,380	6,550	6,490	6,670	630	770	720	8.7	10.7	9.7
Bucksport	4,970	5,010	5,020	4,430	4,360	4,540	540	650	480	10.8	12.9	9.5
Calais	5,210	5,350	5,380	4,370	4,380	4,650	840	980	730	16.1	18.3	13.6
Dexter-Pittsfield	12,570	12,660	12,660	10,990	10,660	11,080	1,580	2,000	1,580	12.6	15.8	12.4
Dover-Foxcroft	7,000	7,140	7,270	6,300	6,280	6,490	700	860	790	10.0	12.0	10.8
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	16,040	16,370	15,860	13,510	13,280	13,660	2,540	3,090	2,200	15.8	18.9	13.9
Farmington	18,490	18,630	18,580	16,860	16,670	16,950	1,630	1,960	1,630	8.8	10.5	8.8
Fort Kent	3,810	3,750	4,080	3,340	3,200	3,530	470	550	540	12.4	14.6	13.3
Greenville	1,090	1,090	1,020	930	890	870	150	200	150	14.1	18.1	14.6
Houlton	6,340	6,340	6,430	5,660	5,540	5,840	670	800	590	10.6	12.7	9.2
Jonesport-Milbridge	3,540	3,550	3,620	2,900	2,770	2,990	640	780	630	18.0	21.9	17.4
Kittery-York	19,050	18,670	19,090	18,080	17,480	18,070	970	1,190	1,020	5.1	6.3	5.3
Lincoln-Howland	5,710	5,800	5,830	5,100	5,090	5,310	610	720	530	10.7	12.3	9.0
Machias-Eastport	6,560	6,460	6,720	5,600	5,320	5,650	960	1,150	1,070	14.6	17.7	16.0
Madawaska	3,990	4,080	4,200	3,550	3,480	3,740	440	610	470	11.0	14.9	11.1
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,630	5,680	5,840	5,000	4,930	5,270	630	750	570	11.2	13.2	9.8
Norway-Paris	10,290	10,280	10,300	9,080	8,880	8,990	1,210	1,410	1,320	11.7	13.7	12.8
Outer Bangor	7,150	7,430	7,110	6,260	6,330	6,310	900	1,100	800	12.5	14.8	11.3
Patten-Island Falls	1,980	1,980	1,920	1,750	1,720	1,720	230	260	200	11.7	13.1	10.2
Presque Isle-Caribou	21,150	21,290	22,190	18,250	17,920	19,420	2,910	3,370	2,770	13.7	15.8	12.5
Rockland	20,230	19,970	20,620	18,330	18,060	18,370	1,900	1,920	2,250	9.4	9.6	10.9
Rumford	11,410	11,450	11,270	10,240	10,200	10,230	1,170	1,250	1,050	10.2	10.9	9.3
Sanford	21,670	21,810	21,390	19,560	19,180	19,140	2,120	2,620	2,260	9.8	12.0	10.6
Sebago Lakes Region	12,280	12,270	12,270	11,130	10,880	11,190	1,150	1,390	1,080	9.4	11.3	8.8
Skowhegan	15,470	15,590	15,820	13,570	13,360	13,960	1,900	2,220	1,870	12.3	14.3	11.8
Stonington	4,750	4,540	4,830	4,260	4,030	4,300	490	510	530	10.4	11.3	10.9
Van Buren	1,500	1,540	1,550	1,270	1,250	1,280	230	290	260	15.5	18.7	16.9
Waterville	24,310	24,240	25,130	21,760	21,120	22,620	2,550	3,120	2,510	10.5	12.9	10.0
NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)												
Connecticut	n/a	n/a	1,761.3	n/a	n/a	1,642.5	n/a	n/a	118.7	n/a	n/a	6.7
Massachusetts	3,123.0	3,136.0	3,158.0	2,899.0	2,897.0	2,919.0	223.0	240.0	239.0	7.1	7.6	7.6
New Hampshire	613.8	625.5	615.4	577.6	590.8	566.6	36.2	34.7	48.8	5.9	5.5	7.9
Rhode Island	515.4	523.4	514.7	468.9	464.2	467.2	46.5	59.2	47.5	9.0	11.3	9.2
Vermont	311.3	306.0	314.8	291.9	287.5	292.9	19.4	18.5	21.8	6.2	6.0	6.9
UNITED STATES (000)	129,764	129,393	126,505	120,503	119,901	116,735	9,262	9,492	9,770	7.1	7.3	7.7

Footnotes

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas are by place of residence and are not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. Data are rounded for publishing purposes. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding. MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area. n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.

2/ Current estimates preliminary. Last month and year ago estimates revised.

3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: These data are developed by the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	PORTLAND MSA This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of continued-week claimants*	19,639	18,306	17,595	2,769	2,579	2,510	1,595	1,434	1,499

* Continued-week claimants are less partials for week including the 12th of the month.

Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine

Seasonally Adjusted in Thousands

ITEM	1993											1994	
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Civilian Labor Force 1/	636.9	635.2	633.9	632.8	631.4	628.1	629.4	627.8	627.6	626.5	624.4	628.0	632.1
Resident Employment	589.4	587.4	584.9	582.9	580.4	578.0	577.1	575.2	575.9	575.1	574.7	568.6	585.3
Unemployment	47.5	47.8	48.9	49.9	51.0	50.1	52.3	52.6	51.6	51.4	49.7	59.4	46.8
Percent of Labor Force	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.9	8.1	8.0	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.0	9.5	7.4
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 2/	514.3	515.8	517.9	519.6	518.9	519.1	520.3	519.8	521.9	522.2	521.6	517.7	520.3
Construction	21.5	21.4	21.0	21.0	20.4	20.8	20.5	20.4	21.1	21.4	21.7	21.5	21.4
Manufacturing, Durable Goods	40.4	40.6	40.5	40.4	40.3	40.3	40.2	40.3	40.5	40.8	40.8	40.6	41.6
Manufacturing, Nondurable Goods	50.1	50.2	50.8	50.8	50.6	50.7	50.9	50.6	51.1	51.0	51.0	50.6	50.9
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.9	22.0	21.1	22.1	22.1	22.0	22.1	22.1	21.6	21.8	21.9	21.4	21.5
Wholesale Trade	23.0	23.1	23.2	22.5	23.1	23.2	23.2	23.3	23.4	23.4	23.3	23.5	23.4
Retail Trade	105.6	105.2	106.5	107.0	106.9	107.0	107.3	108.0	107.9	107.5	106.8	106.2	106.1
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	25.1	25.2	25.5	25.6	25.7	25.7	25.9	25.8	25.9	26.1	26.0	25.9	25.9
Services	130.8	132.0	132.7	134.1	134.6	133.3	134.1	135.2	136.3	136.5	136.7	135.8	136.1
Government	95.8	96.0	94.6	95.2	95.1	95.9	95.9	93.9	94.0	93.6	93.3	92.1	93.2

1/ Place of residence. 2/ Place of work.

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